Loan for Kothagudem Thermal Power Station Stage-I

550. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board has requested the Power Financial Corporation, New Delhi for sanctioning a loan of Rs. 280 crores for executing the works of Kothagudem Thermal Power Station, Stage-I to be commissioned in 1996;

(b) if so, whether despite several reminders the amount has not been released so far;

(c) if so, what are the main reasons for the delay; and

(d) by when the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (d) On an application made by Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board (APSEB), Power Finance Corporation has already sanctioned an amount of Rs. 280 crores as lease financing for Kothagudem TPS. An amount of Rs. 234.27 crores has already been released to the APSEB on the basis of the claims made by them. The balance will be paid as soon as the APSEB raises claims. As can be seen from the above, there has been no delay on the part of PFC for granting the loan to APSEB.

Assembly Elections in J&K

551. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since arrived at the decision to hold Assembly elections in J&K at an early date; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Exact dates in this regard would be decided by the Election Commission of India.

Implementation of MRTS in Delhi

552. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made with regard to implementation of Mass Rapid Transport System (MRTS) in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have planned any action for plan implementation of MRTS so far and if so, the details thereof and the progress made thereon;

(c) whether Government have dropped the scheme; and

(d) if not, what is the target year of its (MRTS) completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (d) After the in principle approval of the Delhi MRTS Project by the Government of India together with an "indicative" financing plan therefor in July, 1994, follow up actions are being taken towards getting final investment decision of Government in consultation with the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. The actions which have already been completed are: preparation of Detailed Project Report through the Government of National Capital Territory; preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report and Detailed Financial/Economic Analyses of the project; registration of a company under the Companies Act in partnership with the Delhi Government to implement the project; posing the project before the OECF (Japan) to provide loan assistance for the project; and getting the approval of the Empowered Committee set up under Cabinet Secretary's Chairmanship to facilitate and monitor all matters connected with the implementation of